

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed May 26, 2006 ("Office Action"). At the time of the Office Action, Claims 17-24, 41-48, 65-72, and 81-87 were pending in the Application. The Examiner allows Claims 17-20, 41-44, 65-68, and 81. Claims 21-24, 45-48, 69-72, and 82-87 are rejected. Applicant amends Claims 22, 46, 70, 71, 82 and cancels Claims 21, 45, 69, 84-87. As described below, Applicant believes all claims to be allowable over the cited references. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

Section 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejects Claims 21-24, 45-48, 69-72, and 82-87 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,339,826 issued to Hayes, Jr. et al. ("*Hayes*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,105,027 issued to Schneider et al. ("*Schneider*").

In this Response to Office Action, Applicant cancels Claims 21, 45, 69, 84-87 without prejudice or traverse. Additionally, Applicants amend dependent Claims 22, 46, and 70 such that Claims 22, 46, and 70 now depend on independent Claims 20, 44, and 68, respectively. As dependent Claims 22, 46, and 79 now depend on upon independent Claims that have been allowed by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 22, 46, and 79 are also allowable. Dependent Claims 23-24, 47-48, and 71 and 72 are allowable for analogous reasons.

Independent Claim 82 has been amended to recite certain claim elements that are analogous to those recited in independent Claim 44, which has been allowed by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 82, together with Claim 83 that depends from Claim 82, should also be allowable.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 22-24, 46-48, 70-72, and 82-83.

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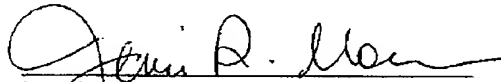
CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the Examiner is invited to contact Jenni R. Moen, Attorney for Applicant, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6809.

Applicant believes that no fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
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